

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended): An optical transmission apparatus, comprising:
  - a plurality of ports for transmitting and/or receiving one or more signals substantially as defined at IEEE 1394;
  - at least one of the ports being for transmitting and/or receiving one or more optical signals;
  - and
  - one or more protocol conversion means for carrying out signal transmission protocol conversion at a physical-layer level on at least one of the optical signals transmitted and/or received by said at least one of the ports; and
  - wherein one or more bus management means co-manages for co-managing one or more signal buses which are respectively connected externally to at least a portion of the plurality of ports, wherein
  - said one or more protocol conversion means is an application-level protocol conversion means which carries out mutual conversion between two formats of signal transmission protocols at an application level, and
  - respective signals according to the two formats of signal transmission protocols mutually converted by the application-level protocol conversion means are assigned together to a series of packets, and the respective signals are transmitted simultaneously in said packets.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended): The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 2\_1 wherein at least one of the application-level protocol conversion means carries out conversion between or among one or more DV-format signal transmission protocols and one or more MPEG-2TS-format signal transmission protocols.
4. (Currently Amended): The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 2\_1 wherein at least one of the application-level protocol conversion means carries out conversion between or among one or more 1-bit audio signal transmission protocols and one or more multi-bit audio signal transmission protocols.
5. (Currently Amended): The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 4 wherein at least one of the multi-bit audio signal transmission protocol or protocols is substantially as defined at IEC 60958.
6. (Currently Amended): The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 4 wherein at least one of the multi-bit audio signal transmission protocol or protocols is substantially as defined at MPEG Audio Layer-3.
7. (Currently Amended): The optical transmission apparatus according to claim 2\_1 wherein

one or more of the application-level protocol conversion means take the form of one or more replaceable modules.

8. (Currently Amended): Electronic equipment comprising one or more optical transmission apparatuses according to any of claims 1-~~through 7 and 3-7~~.